

Notes for New Mexico hearing 11/26/13

1. Have a clear mission statement Like Don't build new Prisons they cost too much, or Develop clear understanding of all aspects of New Mexico criminal justice and corrections system with goal to reduce our costs, keep New Mexico safe, and cut population in our prisons.
2. Data is critical. Insure you have the right data to answer the questions that will arise and provide a clear guideline for where action is necessary to meet goal.
3. Make sure you get the involvement of all involved in the system and get the support and cooperation of as many groups and people as possible.
4. Work on a broad scale. It is best to go big in this because it will involve a lot of political capitol and you need to be sure you get enough done to meet your goals.
5. This needs to be bipartisan. Get leaders on all sides and parties working together. It is the one issue that can get broad support from liberals, conservatives, tea party members, libertarians, and all sectors in between.
6. You can look at everything from arrest to sentencing, to probation, to incarceration, to parole, to juveniles, to school discipline, to early childhood. They can all be part of the diverting of people from the pathway to prison.
7. Ask what programs we have, how they work and do they work. Ask if there are queuing problems that can be broken and more efficient ways of doing things.
8. Probably you need a rather tight time line to get things moving.
9. List all problems.
10. Prerelease has come up in many conversations
11. Sending people out of state.